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A HISTORY
of the
EARLY DYNASTIES OF ANDHRADESA

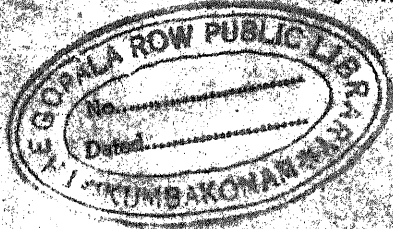
C. 200—625 A. D.

(With a map of Ancient Andhradesa and Dakṣiṇapatha)

BY

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Andhra Historical Research Society, Rajahmundry.*

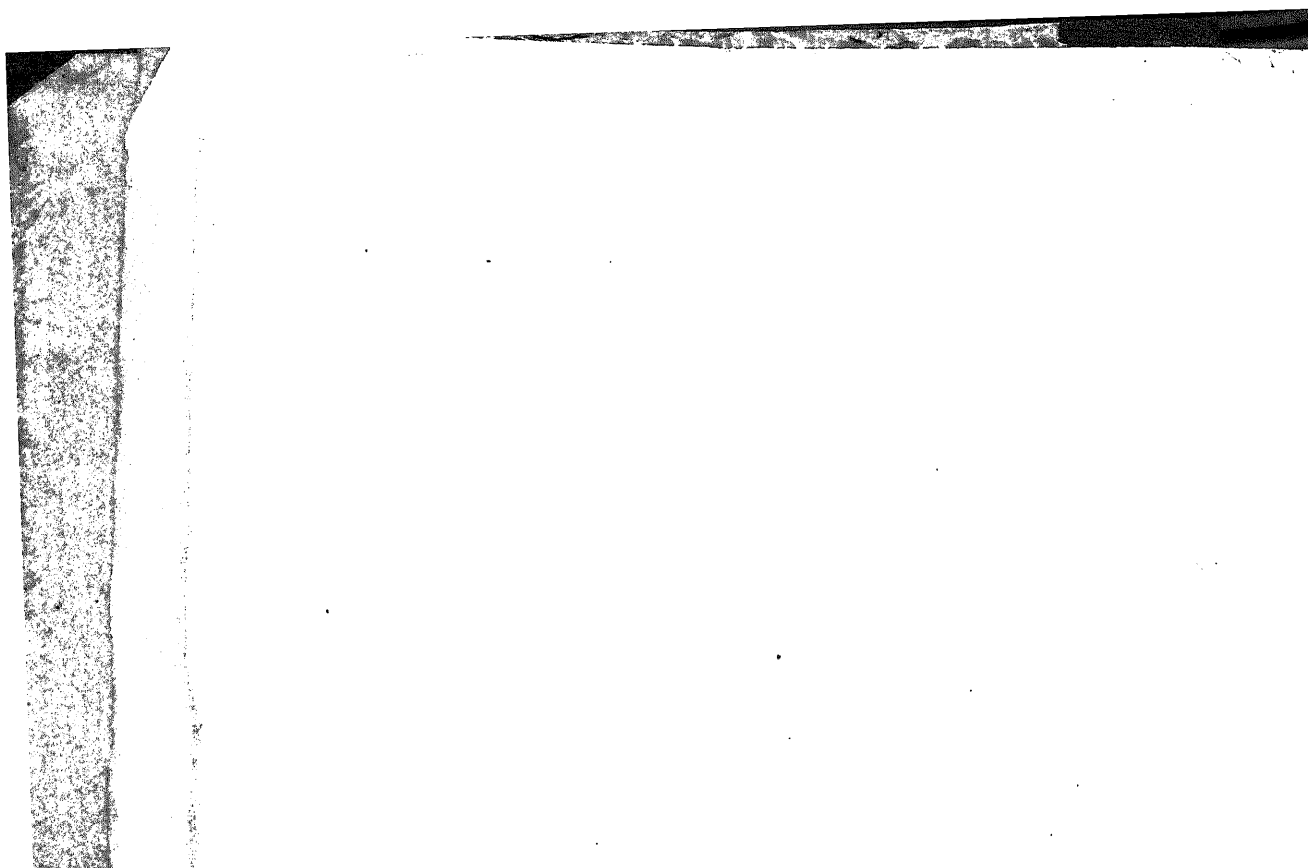


(Thesis approved for the Degree of Master of Arts in the Andhra University, 1938)

V. RAMASWAMI SASTRULU & SONS.

ESPLANADE, MADRAS.

1942.

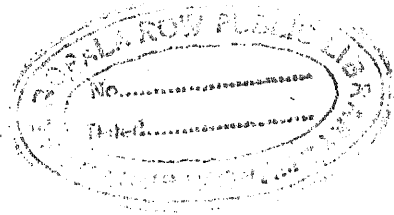


RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

TO

Professor SIR S. RADHAKRISHNAN, KT.,
M. A., D. LITT. (Andhra), LL. D. (All.), D. L. (Cal.),
VICE-CHANCELLOR, BENARES HINDU UNIVERSITY.

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Srinivasan N. K. K. Rao
on 9-10-27



PREFACE.

An attempt has been made in this book to present to the reader in a detailed and comprehensive manner, the History of the Early Dynasties of Andhradēśa, from the downfall of the Śātavāhanas, or Imperial Andhras as they are also called, to the establishment of the Eastern Cālukya dynasty: that is to say, from the beginning of the third century after Christ to the close of the first quarter of the seventh century. Here is put forward for the first time a frame-work of chronology covering not only the history of Andhradēśa but also all the contemporary dynasties of Dakṣiṇāpatha and South India, known to epigraphy. The book deals with the rise and fall of the Imperial Ikṣvākus, the Pallava dominion in southern Andhradēśa, the shortlived Bṛhatphalāyanas, the Ānandas, the Śālāṅkāyanas, the Imperial Viṣṇukunḍins, the Vāsiṣṭhas and the Mātharas or Pitr̥bhaktas; besides the Kadambas, the Jāhnavīyas, the Imperial Vākātakas, the Śailōdbhavas, the Eastern Gaṅgas, the Kings of Śarabhapura and several others. In this book I have used the name *Andhradēśa* with the short vowel in the first syllable as I found it so in literature and in inscriptions from the time of the *Aitareya Brahmana* down to the fifteenth century. I consider the long vowel in the name to be an anachronism in the early period; and I hope that hereafter the name of the country will be pronounced as Andhradēśa and *not* as Āndhradēśa.

I have pursued historical research as a hobby, as a labour of love, for nearly two decades. I have read most of the works on the subject, and now I present this framework of dynastic annals and political vicissitudes of ancient Andhra in a fresh and original setting. I believe that the chronology of the Early Dynasties of Andhradēśa cannot be studied in isolation but only with reference to the history of the well known contemporary dynasties of Dakṣiṇāpatha and South India. In doing so, I have had necessarily to differ from the conclusions

PREFACE

of my predecessors in the field, and I have shown reasons for differing from them. The volume of the work of opinion throughout has been so great that I have in the construction of the early history of the Deccan and with particular reference to Andhra has been called upon to however approached the subject without any special predilections; and I trust the book will be receive the attention it deserves at the hands of all scholars.

I am greatly indebted to *Bhāṣāddhāraka* VENKATESWARA SASTRULU garu, who has readily consented to the publication of this book; and I wish to thank the Manager of the Vāvilla Press, for the unfailing promptness with which he has executed the printing of the book. I am grateful to Rao Bahadur KASINATH DIKSHIT, M.A., F.R.A.S.B., Director-General of Archaeology, India, for his kind permission to reproduce the drawings of the ancient monuments of Andhra that appear in the book. I also wish to express my indebtedness to KEDARI RAO of the Government Arts College, Raipur, for his assistance in reading the proofs and for making suggestions.

RAJAHMUNDRY, }
February, 1942.

B. V. KRISHNA RAO

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 - 4. Political history of the Śālaṅkāyanas
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- IV. The Māṭhara or the Pitr̥bhakta I
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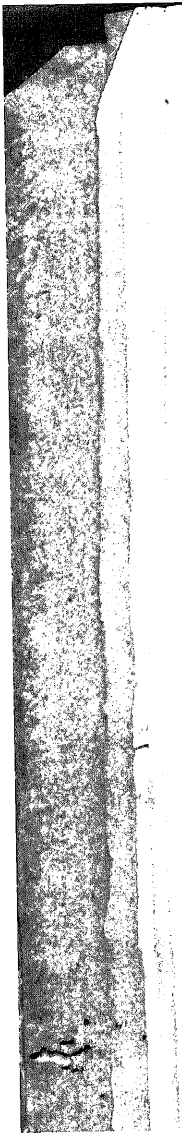
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Viṣṇukunḍin style

ABBREVIATIONS EMPLOYED IN THE BOOK.

Annals BORS: Annals of the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona.

ARSIE: Annual Report of the Superintendent for South Indian Epigraphy, Madras.

ASI: Annual Report of the Archaeological Survey of India, New Delhi.

ASSI: Archaeological Survey of Southern India, Madras.

ASWI: Archaeological Survey of Western India.

AHD: Ancient History of the Deccan, by Dr. Jouveau-Dubreuil.

CAD: Rapson, E. J., : Catalogue of the Coins of the Andhra Dynasty and others, in the British Museum, London.

CII: *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, Vol. III. Inscriptions of the Gupta Dynasty etc.

DKA or PTDKA: Purāṇa Text of the Dynasties of the Kali Age, by F. E. Pargiter, Oxford University Press.

DKD: Dynasties of the Kanarese Districts, by J. F. Fleet. Bombay Gazetteer, Vol. II, Part I.

EHI: Early History of India by V. A. Smith. Fourth edn.

EI: *Epigraphia Indica*, New Delhi.

EC: *Epigraphia Carnatica*, Mysore.

Ep. Colln: Epigraphical Collection of the Superintendent for Epigraphy, Southern Circle.

Ind. Ant. (IA): Indian Antiquary, Bombay.

IHQ: Indian Historical Quarterly, Calcutta.

JRAS: Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, etc., London.

JAHS: Journal of the Andhra Historical Research Society.

JBORS: Journal of the Bihar and Orissa Research Society.

JBBRAS: Journal of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society.

JIH: Journal of Indian History, Madras.

JOR: Journal of Oriental Research, Madras.

JASB: Journal of the (Royal) Asiatic Society of Bengal.

Mys. Arch. Rept.: Annual Report of the Mysore Archaeological Department, Mysore.

QJMS: Quarterly Journal of the Mythic Society, Bangalore.

SII: South Indian Inscriptions.

CORRECTIONS & ADDITIONS.

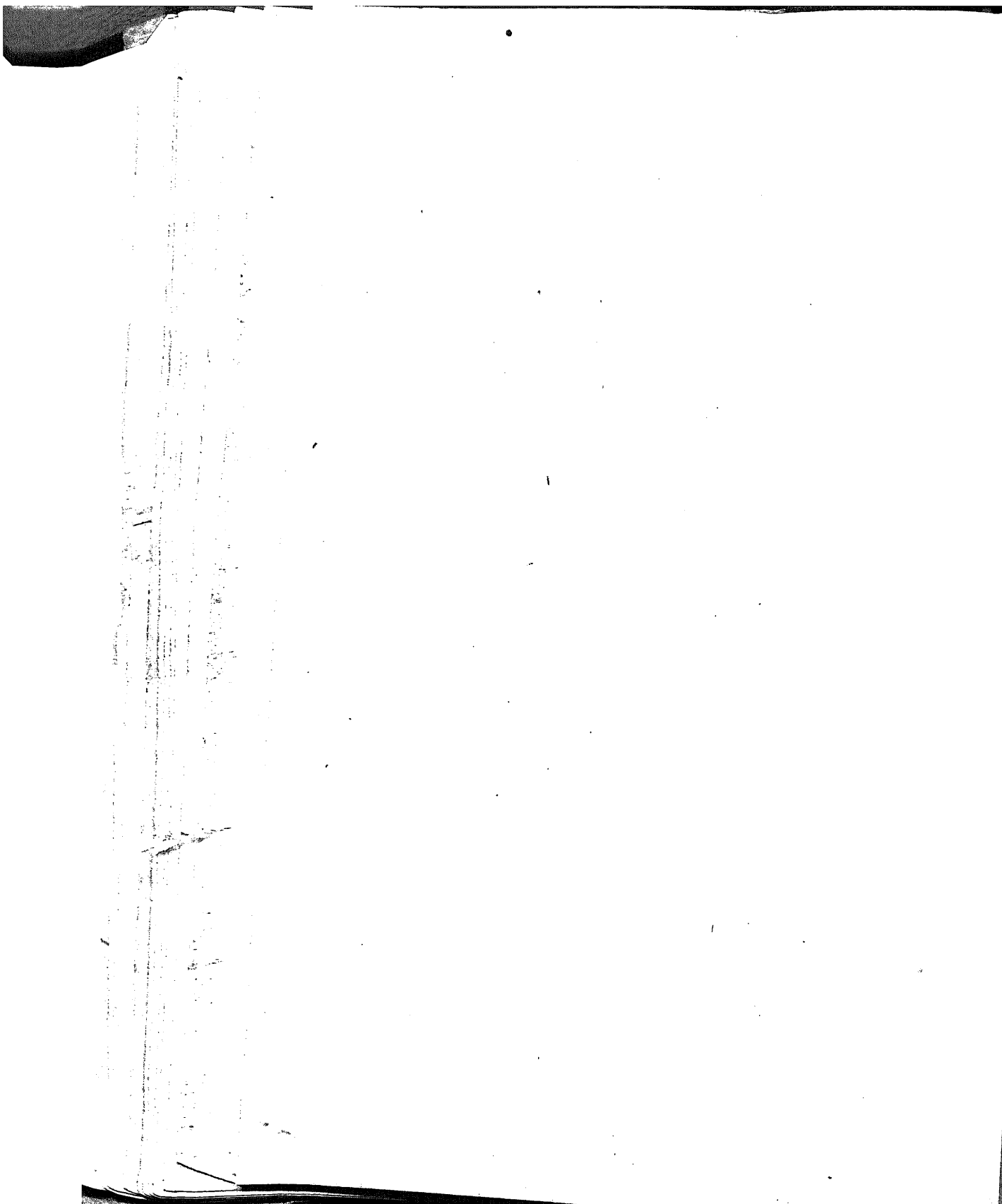
- Page 1 line 8 from bottom : *read* 'rivers is a long and'
- „ 16 line 9 from top : *read* = 'anvaya-nṛpaḥ' for 'anvaya-nṛpaḥ'
- „ 17 line 3 from top : *read* 'Ābhīras' for 'Abhiras'
- „ 17 line 5 from top : *read* 'Andhraḥ' etc. for 'Āndhraḥ'
- „ 18 lines 3 & 7 para 1 : *read* 'Ābhīras' for 'Abhiras'
- „ 24 last line : *read* 'of the Śātavāhanas' for 'of the Śātavāhas'
- „ 25 line 11 from top : *read* 'During the reigns of Emperor'
for 'During the reigns of the Emperor'
- „ 26 lines 12 & 25 : *read* 'Vāsiṣṭhīputra Cataraphaṇa' for
'Vāsiṣṭhīputra Caṭaraphaṇa'
- „ 27 & 28 wherever it occurs : *read* 'Vāsiṣṭhīputra Catara-
pahaṇa.' for 'Vāsiṣṭhīputra Caṭarapahaṇa'
- „ 29 line 19 para 1 : *read* 'The dismemberment of' for
'The dismemberement of'
- „ line 9 from below : *read* 'The Ābhīras' for 'The Abhiras'
- „ 32 line 10 from top : *read* 'in Andhradesa was probably'
adding 'probably' after 'was'
- „ 32 line 5 from bottom : *read* 'the Ikṣvākus' for 'the
Ikṣhvākus'
- „ 34 last line of the para : *read* 'in Dakṣiṇāpatha' for
'of Dakṣiṇāpatha'
- „ 36 line 12 from bottom : *read* a full-stop after 'alone did'
for a comma
- „ 40 line 13 from bottom : *read* 'Aḍavi Śānti Śrī' for 'Aḍavi
Śānti Śrī'
- „ 41 lines 1, 11 and 21 : *delete* 'the' before 'Emperor'
- „ 67 line 19 from top : *read* 'Chāṭhisirinikā' for 'Chāṭhi-
sirinikā'
- „ 70 line 16 from top : *read* 'Aparāṁta' for 'Aparmāta'
- „ 78 line 5 from top : *read* 'inscription at the second apsidal'
for 'inscription second apsidal'
- „ 83 line 9 from top : *read* 'even during' for 'during even'
- „ 84 line last one : *read* 'Cēzerla' for 'Chēzerla'
- „ 89 line 4 from top : *read* 'contiguous to' for 'contiguous
with'

- page 89 line 5 from bottom: *read* 'dialectician' for 'dalectician'
- " 93 line 7 from top: *delete* 'Śiva Śrī' before 'Caṭaraphaṇa'
- " " " *read* Cataraphaṇa for 'Caṭaraphaṇa'
- " 93 line 4 from bottom: *read* 'who' for 'wao'
- " 103 line 4 from top: *read* 'worlds and,' for 'worlds-and'
- " 125 line 18 from top: *read* 'Līṅgabhṭṭiyam' for
'Līṅgabhṭṭivam'
- " 126 line 11 from top: *read* 'It seems to be a veiled' for
'It seems to be veiled'
- " 146 line 14 from bottom: *read* 'Śātavāhanas' for 'Śātavāhans'
- " 152 line 2 footnote 1: *read* 'padama' for 'Padama'
- " 153 line 4 from top: *read* 'Khamdanāgasataka' for
'Khamdasāgasataka'
- " 153 line 13 from top: *read* 'season' for 'seasn'
- " 153 line 7 from below: *read* 'comprised of' for 'comprised'
- " 157 line 19 from top: *delete* 'after' that comes after 'place'
- " 158 lines 9-10, footnote 2: *read* 'comprise of the' for
comprise the', and also *read* 'never of
the pūrṇimānta' for 'never pūrṇimānta'
- " 159 line 5 from bottom: *read* 'period' for 'eriodp'
- " 169 line 10 from top: *read* 'Ānarta.' for 'Anarta'
- " 173 line 9 from bottom: *read* 'Ānarta' for 'Anarta'
- " 177 line 2 from above: *read* a comma after the word 'and'
- " 185 line 1 from top: *delete* the words 'utterly confused'
- " 185 line 5 para 1: *read* 'synchronous' for 'synchronomous'
- " 189 line 15 from top: *read* 'assumption' for 'idea'
- " " " 16 from top: *read* 'hypothesis' for 'idea'
- " 197 line 8 from above: *delete* comma after 'Suvarṇamukhi'
- " 199 line 13 from bottom: *read* 'Kāñcīpura' for 'kāñcīpura'
- " 201 line 3 from top: *read* 'dignity or' for 'dignity of'
- " 203 line 4 from bottom: *read* 'must lie' for 'must be'
- " 205 line 3 para: *read* 'remind' for 'reminds'
- " 219 line 1 from top: *read* 'Kōḍūra' for 'Andhradesa'
- " 219 line 11 from top: *read* 'Vanavāsa' for 'Vaijayantī'
- " 220 line 3 from top: *delete* the comma after 'chief'
- " 223 line 3 from bottom: *read* 'with the eastern provinces'
for 'with the province'

- page 233 line 11 from top : *read* 'satata-satya-vrata' for 'sātata-satsa-vrata'
- „ 234 line 12 from top : *read* 'Karmarāṣṭra' for 'Kāmarāṣṭra'
- „ 235 line 8 from above : *read* 'in Caitra' after 'of the sun'
- „ 248 line 6 from below : *read* 'seen' for 'seem'
- „ 249 line 17 from below : *read* 'Vijaya-Nandivarman III' for 'Vijaya-Nandivarman II'
- „ 257 line 17 from above : *read* 'Mādhava I' for 'Bhagīratha'
- „ 262 line 12 from above : *read* 'its end.' for 'it end'
- „ 274 line 4 from above : *read* 'Ṣimōga' for 'ṣimōga'
- „ 278 line 8 from above : *read* 'perpetuating' for 'perpetrating'
- „ 293 line 9 from below : *read* 'historical' for 'historic'
- „ 296 line 22 from above : *delete* 'which' after 'battles'
- „ 306 line 3 from above : *read* 'Kandararāja' for 'Mahēndravarman'
- „ 312 line 18 from above : *read* 'sañcārantakas' for 'añcārantakas'
- „ 330 line 10 middle para ; *read* 'apramēya' for 'apramēva.'
- „ 332 line 2 from above *read* : 'Andhra' for 'Āndhra'
- „ 332 line 5 from above : *read* 'pādanudhyātasya' for 'pādanudhāytasya'
- „ 336 line 10 from below : *read* 'nay' for 'may'
- „ 336 last line from below : *read* 'who,' before 'therefore, may'
- „ 345 line 5 from above : *read* 'Duvarāja' for 'Du(Yu)varāja'
- „ 352 line 7 from above : *read* 'Elliot' for 'Eliot'
- „ 355 line 6 from above : *read* 'Elliot's' for 'Eliot's'
- „ 364 lines 8 & 9 from below : *read* 'comprised of roughly' *delete* 'the Jubbulpore and' and 's' in 'divisions'
- „ 374 line 5 from below : *read* 'prasiddha' for 'prasidha'
- „ 375 *Add* as foot-note 3 : 'It is possible to read the name as Kudrahāra also.'
- „ 376 line 12 from top : *read* 'Elliot' for 'Eliot'
- „ 379 line 24 from top : *read* 'Kantēru' for 'Kollēru'
- „ „ line 25 *read* 'Guḍivāḍa taluk' for 'same taluk'
- „ 381 line 17 from below : *delete* 'The' before 'Yuan Chwang'
- „ 386 line 14 from above : *read* 'who seem' for 'who seems'

- page 390 line 7 from below : *read* 'or devotion' for 'of devotion'
- „ 397 last line footnote : *read* 'Kuḍopali' for 'Kuḍoplai'
- „ 431 line 4 from below : *read* 'Sālaṅkayya' for 'Sālaṅkāyya'
- „ 431 lines 7 & 15 from top : *read* 'Rājasūya' for 'Rājasūva'
- „ 444 line 12 from above : *read* 'performs' for 'performs'
- „ 444 line 9 from below (text) : *read* 'Rājasūya' for 'Rāja-sūva'
- „ 455 line 11 from below : *read* 'constituent' for 'constituent'
- „ 445 line 11 from above : *delete* 'all' before 'forms'
- „ 445 lost line : *read* 'conversation' for 'converation'
- „ 446 line 2 from above : *read* 'inhuman' for 'in human'
- „ 447 line 4 from top : *delete* 'had' before 'performed it'
- „ 447 line 6 from above : *read* 'been' after 'have'
- „ 448 line 8 from top : *read* 'performing' for 'perfroming'
- „ 449 last line (text) : *read* 'asārvabhauma' for 'a sārvaabhauma'
- „ 462 line 5 from below (text) : *read* 'there had grown' for 'there have grown'
- „ 468 line 2 in margin : *read* 'c. 450—460 A. D.' for 'c. 450—560 A. D.'
- „ 476 line 13 from above : *read* 'that he reigned' for 'that reigned'
- „ 482 line 2 in the margin : *read* 'II Set' for 'I Set'
- „ 492 lines 2-3 (text) from below : *read* 'Nāgāvali' for 'Varṁs'adhāra'
- „ 507 line 19 from above : *read* a comma after 'to assist'
- „ 518 line 6 from above : *read* (530—575 A. D.) for (535—580 A. D.)
- „ „ last line in footnote : *read* '530—575' for '535—580'
- „ 529 lines 11-12 from above : *delete* 'and his successor Indravarman (II) after 'Hastivarman' and 'two' before 'Eastern' and *delete* also the last two lines in footnote 2.
- „ 535 line 13 from above : *read* 'Talakkāḍ' for 'Talkkād'
- „ 589 line 2 in para 2 : *read* 'Bhūpēndravarman' for 'Rājēndravarman (II)'
- „ 601 line 4 from below : *read* 'North Kalinga' for 'Kalinga'

- page 603 line 2 from above: *read* 'of Mahā-Sāmantavarman
about the *Gaṅga Samvat* ' for ' of about
Sāmantavarman Mahā '
- „ 604 line 8 from above: *read* 'Mādhavarāja I' for
'Mādhavarāja II.'
- „ 605 line 11 from above: *delete* 'Of' before 'Trikalīṅga '
- „ „ line 20 from above: *read* 'Mādhavarāja I' for
'Mādhavarāja II'
- „ 606 line 6 from top: *read* 'Mādhavarāja I' for 'Mādhava-
rāja II'
- „ 608 line 12 from below: *read* 'bhōgika of' 'Bhōgika '
- „ „ line 4 from below: *read* Kālidāsa's for Kālidāsa's
- „ 612 line 5 from below: *read* 'identifies' for 'dientifies'
- „ 614 line 7 from below (text): *read* 'Orissa' for 'Orisa '
- „ 624 in the table: *read* '12 Raṇakṣōbha' for '12 Raṇakṣōbha'
- „ 625 line 11 from below (text): *read* 'plates' for 'plate'
- „ 636 line 16 from above: *read* 'Harisēna' 'Harisēna's '
- „ 638 lines 12 & 29 from above: *read* 'Harāhā' for 'Hārāh '
- „ 639 wherever it occurs: *read* 'Mādhavarāja I' for
'Mādhavarāja II'
- „ 642 line 4 from top: *read* Mādhavarāja I for 'Mādhava-
rāja II'
- „ „ line 15 from above: *read* 'Raṇakṣōbha' for 'Raṇk
ṣōbha'
- „ 643-647 wherever it occurs: *read* 'Mādhavarāja II' for
'Mādhavarāja III'
- „ 646 line 5 from above: *read* 'south' for north.'





INTRODUCTORY

ANDHRADESA

The object of this introductory chapter is to give a geographical description of Andhradesa, as the foundation for the historical chapters which follow. In this we shall make a brief topographical survey of the country, describe the people and their language and consider it as a whole in order to place the historical facts in proper perspective.

Andhradesa or Andhra simply is the ancient name of the eastern part of the Deccan plateau, the surface of which, from the foot of the Balaghat Range and the Ajanta Ghats, falls eastward to a long double range of mountains called Malai in the language of the country and the Eastern Ghats in modern usage, and thence to the sea coast. The table-land of Andhra is bounded by the river Manjira on the west and by the Eastern Ghats on the east. Between the Eastern Ghats and the sea coast there is a belt of low fertile land, made rich by the deltas of the Gōdāvari and the Kṛṣṇa and other large rivers flowing through it. Thus the geography of Andhradesa is of a simple design. It consists of a long range of mountains, running with occasional breaks from north-east to south-west, and dividing the country into two distinct regions, the region of the tableland on the west and the region of the coast-strip on the east.

Andhradesa is a land of rivers that flow from the north-west to the south-east and flow into the Bay of Bengal. The most notable of them are the Gōdāvari on the north and the Kṛṣṇa on the south. The general course of these great rivers is long and fairly straight run from their sources in the Western Ghats down the eastward slope of the plateau, with a break in the Eastern Ghats and then a descending flow across the coast-strip to the sea, ending in fertile deltas. The first great tributary of the Gōdāvari is the river Manjira, which flows into it on the right bank at a point where it emerges from the Balaghat Range. At the spot where it takes a south-eastward turn, the Gōdāvari receives on the left bank

another feeder, the Prāṇahita, itself a large river, made up of the waters of the Wainganga (Vēṇī-Ganga) from the north, the Wardha (Varadā) from the north-west and the Painganga (Pina-Ganga) from the west. A little below this point, the Indrāvati flows into the Gōdāvari from the north-east, rising somewhere in the Eastern Ghats on the western slopes of the Mahēndragiri Range. The last important feeder that comes into the Gōdāvari is the Śabarī. Thereafter, the river cuts through the Eastern Ghats, locally called Pāpi-koṇḍalu (Bison Hills), forcing a passage between them and penetrating by an almost precipitous gorge to the very heart of the range. The scenery of this gorge is famous for its magnificent beauty.

The Kṛṣṇa, too, rises in the Western Ghats, not far from the sea, and flows eastward across the Deccan plateau; except the first part of its run and near the point where it cuts the Eastern Ghats and where it crosses the coast-belt, its general course is southward. One of its large tributaries is the Bhīmā or Bhīmarathi, which rises also in the Western Ghats and flows south-east to fall into it on the left bank at a place half-way across the plateau. The Tungabhadra is another large river which joins the Kṛṣṇa on the right bank a little farther down, carrying the drainage of the northern slopes of the Mysore uplands. Then come, in order from west to east, large streams, the Dindī, the Mūsi and the Muni, joining the Kṛṣṇa on the left bank. They rise somewhere in the uplands on the north and bring the drainage of the eastern slopes of the Deccan plateau. A little farther down the confluence of the Tungabhadra, the Kṛṣṇa penetrates through the forest clad ranges of the Eastern Ghats, locally called Erramala and Nallamala, and flows in a north-easterly direction to the point where it receives the feeder, the Mūsi. At Bezwada again the Kṛṣṇa breaks through the gorge in the Eastern Ghats and splits up into a number of branches forming the delta.

The other important rivers of the country, in order from south to north, are the Pinākini (Penna) or North Pennar, the Pāleru, the Mannēru, the Guṇḍlakamma or the Brahmakuṇḍī,

the Śārada, the Vamsadhāra, the Nāgāvali and lastly the R̥ṣikulya. All these rivers, except the Pinākini, rise on the high grounds of the Eastern Ghats, and flowing eastward fall into the Bay of Bengal. The Pinākini rises in the uplands of Mysore, flows down the northward slope and then taking abruptly an eastward course through the table-land of the Carnatic or the southern edge of the Deccan, breaks through a gap in the Eastern Ghats, locally called Vēli-koṇḍalu, and enters the sea at a point roughly a hundred and fifty miles to the south from the mouth of the Kṛṣṇa.

The deltas of the Gōdāvari and the Kṛṣṇa almost touch each other. Owing to the enormous volume of sand and silt, which the two large rivers bring from the table-land on the west, the deltas were formed. Flanked on either side by these deltas, lay the low ground which in course of long centuries became the bed of a huge lake. It is known as the Kolanu or Kolleru (Colair). It is of considerable importance, and well known in the early history of the Andhra country. It is about fifty square miles in extent and studded with numerous islands and fishing villages.

The Gōdāvari and the Kṛṣṇa are deeply trenched in the valleys between the bounding spurs of the Eastern Ghats. They have gradual descending courses as they flow eastward, which make them suitable for navigation for hundreds of miles, from their mouths into the interior. Along the great sea-coast of Andhra, which extends for about four hundred miles, there flourished rich sea-ports at the mouths of the large rivers and deep saltwater creeks, which encouraged navigation, colonisation and commercial enterprise, and bred a race of hardy and adventurous seamen. In ancient times, the Gōdāvari and the Kṛṣṇa and their great tributaries were navigable and afforded means of easy communication from the sea to the inland and between one part of the country and another.

The vast sloping table-land flanked by the Eastern Ghats, with its dry soil and little rainfall, with its majestic, large and ever flowing rivers and with extremes of climate in the hot and cold seasons, on the one side and, the fertile coast-strip, with its